

This Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Claims 44 -68 are pending.

Please cancel claims 44-51 and 59-68, without prejudice.

Claims 52-59 are amended, as shown below in the Listing of Claims.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-51 (canceled).

52(currently amended). A [stabilized, substantially supercoiled] plasmid DNA formulation which comprises:

- a) purified plasmid DNA whereby metal ions have been optionally removed;
- b) at least one metal ion chelator selected from the group consisting of EDTA, DTPA, NTA, inositol hexaphosphate, tripolyphosphate, polyphosphoric acid, sodium succinate, potassium succinate, lithium succinate, sodium malate, potassium malate, lithium malate and combinations thereof, at a concentration from [about] 0.5 μ M to [about] 1000 μ M;
- c) [at least one non-reducing scavenging agent selected from the group consisting of ethyl alcohol, glycerol, methionine, dimethyl sulfoxide, and combinations thereof,] ethanol at a weight to volume concentration [up to about 3%] from 0.5% to 2.5%;
- d) a buffer in the pH range from [about] 7.0 to [about] 9.5; wherein the buffer is selected from the group consisting of Tris-HCl, glycine, sodium phosphate, potassium phosphate, lithium phosphate, sodium succinate, potassium succinate, lithium succinate, sodium malate, potassium malate, lithium malate, sodium bicarbonate, potassium bicarbonate, lithium bicarbonate and combinations thereof, at a concentration from about 0.5 mM to about 50mM; and,
- e) a salt selected from the group consisting of NaCl, KCl, LiCl and combinations thereof at a concentration from [about] 50mM to [about] 300 mM.

53(previously presented). A [stabilized, substantially supercoiled] plasmid DNA formulation which comprises:

- (a) purified plasmid DNA whereby metal ions have been optionally removed;
- (b) Tris-HCl buffer at a pH from [about] 7.0 to [about] 9.5;
- (c) ethanol [up to about 3%] from 0.5% to 2.5%;
- (d) EDTA in a concentration range up to [about] 5 mM; and,
- (e) NaCl at a concentration from [about] 50 mM to [about] 300 mM.

54(currently amended). A [stabilized] DNA plasmid formulation of claim 53 wherein the NaCl concentration is from [about] 100 mM to 200 mM.

55(currently amended). A [stabilized] DNA plasmid formulation of claim 53 wherein EDTA is present at a concentration up to [about] 500 μ M.

56(currently amended). A [stabilized] DNA plasmid formulation of claim 53 wherein ethanol is present at a concentration from 1% to [up to about] 2%.

57(currently amended). A [stabilized] DNA plasmid formulation of claim [53] 52 wherein the metal ion chelator is EDTA, [is] present at a concentration [up to about] from 0.5 μ M -500 μ M.

58(currently amended). A [stabilized] DNA plasmid formulation of claim [53] 52wherein ethanol is present at a concentration from 1% to [up to about] 2%.

Claims 59-68 (cancelled).